(c) in view of the need to set up such Kendras in the newly created Districts and Agriculture College in Bijapur whether the Central Government have considered the proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) There are seven newly created districts in Karnataka. Out of which two districts are with existing Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) and one with existing Zonal Agricultural Research Station (ZARS) strengthened to take up the additional functions of KVK. Other four newly created districts are covered with the existing KVKs/ZARSs in the original districts from which these have been created.

Growth of GDP

5111. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Agriculture has recorded a negative growth in this fiscal year impacting the GDP and reducing it to 4.4 per cent against a large of 7 per cent; whether this has been attributed to a poor monsoon after thirteen years of normal rainfall; and

(b) if so, what are Government plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) According to the advance estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation in the month of February, 2003 the growth of GDP in the year 2002-03 is 4.4 per cent as compared to 5.6 per cent in the previous year. The growth rate of Agriculture & Allied sectors in the year 2002-03 is estimated at (–) 3.1 per cent as compared to 5.7 per cent in the previous year. The share of Agriculture and Allied sectors in GDP being 24 per cent in the year 2001-02, the negative growth of the sector in 2002-03 has impacted the growth of GDP in 2002-03.

The negative growth of agriculture in 2002-03 is due to severe drought in several parts of the country. The year 2002 was the first all-India drought year after a continuous spell of 14 good monsoons that followed the previous all-India drought year of 1987.

(b) In order to mitigate the adverse effects of monsoon and ensure robust growth of agriculture in the face of drought conditions occurring over time and across regions, Government of India is implementing several long term programmes such as :

(i) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) launched during 1996-97 for expeditious completion of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects;

(ii) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP);

(iii) Desert Development Programme (DDP);

(iv) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA);

(v) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP); and

(vi) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS).

Production and Consumption of Mustard

†5112. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether produce of mustard has registered a decline during the year 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of production and consumption of mustard during the last three years in the country; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) According to third advance estimates, the production of Rapeseed and Mustard has been estimated to be 45.4 lakhs tonnes during the year 2002-2003 as against the production of 50.4 lakhs tonnes during the year 2001-2002. The fall in production is due to severe drought conditions prevailing in major mustard growing States in the country.

(c) Crop-wise consumption of oilseeds/edible oil is not worked out but the consumption of edible oil in the country is worked out for all oilseed crops as a whole. The State-wise production of Rapeseed & Mustard during the last 3 years in the country is given in the enclosed Statement.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.